



Sustainability AT ILLINOIS

sustainability.illinois.edu

Perspectives on the status and future prospects for sustainability in higher education

16 June 2010

Dick Warner
Director, Office of Sustainability
UIUC



Overview

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:
Review of the Sustainability Initiative after ~18 months
- Concluding remarks – patterns from Big Ten institutions



UIUC Challenges

- UIUC efforts related to sustainability are highly distributed among units
- This is a very large Land Grant institution with an expansive scope and mission
- Inertia



Examples

College of Engineering initiative in Energy and Sustainability Engineering (EaSE)

<http://ease.illinois.edu/>

School of Earth, Society, and Environment

<http://www.earth.illinois.edu/>

NRES on line, etc.

http://nres.illinois.edu/future_online



Examples, continued

- Institute of Natural Resources Sustainability
- Illinois Sustainable Technology Center
- Agroecology and Sustainable Agriculture Program
- Environmental Change Institute
- Student Sustainability Committee
- Facilities & Services (e.g., energy, sustainability coordinator)



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INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Illinois Natural History Survey | Illinois State Archaeological Survey | Illinois State Geological Survey | Illinois State Water Survey | Illinois Sustainable Technology Center

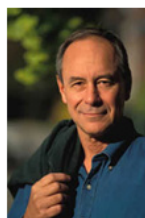
INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY



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William Shilts, Executive Director

Illinois Board of Natural Resource Sustainability | ESRI-GIS Development Center (EDC)



A Message from Executive Director Bill Shilts

Something Old, Something New

On July 1, 2008 a momentous merger of two venerable institutions took place, a merger that will impact both of their futures in significant ways. The State Scientific Surveys, internationally recognized institutions with roots back to the establishment of the first State Geological Survey in 1851, were transferred by the State Legislature to the administration of the University of Illinois, which was established in 1867. The Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) has been located

on the campus of the University since 1885. [...More from Executive Director Shilts](#)

From News Bureau Illinois,

[Shrinking Bylot Island glaciers tell story of climate change](#)

[A Minute with Geologist William Shilts](#)

[Dr. Shilts Recipient of the ISGS Special Recognition Award](#)



Kulkarni Appointed Illinois Sustainable Technology Center Director

McKay Appointed New Illinois State Geological Survey Director

Events, Lectures, Seminars



March 12-13, 2010 Expo

[Photos now posted](#)

Earth, Wind, and Fire 5K Run and 2.5K Walk
[Results are now in](#)

WCIA - [Anne Dill: Turtles](#)

WCIA - [Rob Collins: Mud to Parks and Naturally Illinois Segments](#)

WICD - [Naturally Illinois Expo coming to campus](#)



Illinois Natural History Survey

Since 1858, the INHS has been the guardian and recorder of the biological resources of Illinois — the State's biological memory. With a staff of over 200 scientists and technicians, it is recognized as the premier natural history survey in the nation.



Illinois State Archaeological Survey

Formed February 1, 2010 as a new Division in the Institute of Natural Resource Sustainability, ISAS investigates, protects, preserves and interprets the rich archaeological heritage of Illinois through ITARP, the ATAM program, education, and outreach to meet long-term public needs. Drawing on more than eighty years of research at the University of Illinois, ISAS documents and preserves cultural resources within the context of sustainable economic development. The ISAS has worked with other Divisions of INRS, in particular the Illinois State Geological Survey and the Illinois Natural History Survey, for more than twenty years on transportation and other development projects throughout Illinois.



Illinois State Geological Survey

The ISGS is a premier State Geological Survey serving the needs of Illinois with earth science information relevant to the State's environmental quality, economic vitality, and public safety. Some 200 scientists and technical support staff conduct basic and applied research in geology, compile geologic maps, and gather and manage the state's geological data.



Illinois State Water Survey

The ISWS has flourished for more than a century by anticipating and responding to new challenges and opportunities to serve the citizens of Illinois. Today, the ISWS continues to demonstrate flexibility and adaptability by developing new programs, while continuing to provide long-standing services upon which Illinoisans have come to rely.



Illinois Sustainable Technology Center



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[Illinois Natural History Survey](#) | [Illinois State Archaeological Survey](#) | [Illinois State Geological Survey](#) | [Illinois State Water Survey](#) | [Illinois Sustainable Technology Center](#)

ILLINOIS SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY CENTER



[About ISTC](#) | [Research](#) | [Publications](#) | [Library](#) | [Outreach](#) | [Initiatives](#) | [Technical Assistance](#)

SEARCH

[Biochar](#) | [Biofuels](#) | [IL River \(Mud to Parks\)](#) | [GLRPPR](#) | [PNEAC](#) | [PPCPs in the Environment](#) | [Sustainable Electronics Initiative](#) | [Previous Initiatives](#)

Kulkarni Appointed ISTC Director

Dr. Manohar R. Kulkarni, P.E., has been appointed director of the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, a division of the Institute of Natural Resource Sustainability at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign effective May 1. Kulkarni has been chair and professor of mechanical engineering at the University of North Dakota since 2004.



[Full Story](#)

ISTC Initiatives

ISTC, in cooperation with the Office of the Governor, has honored organizations for their efforts in sustainability and pollution prevention since 1987. [More Info](#)



The Illinois River project is looking at how to remove sediment from the Illinois River in a cost effective and safe manner.

SEI
Sustainable Electronics Initiative
The Sustainable Electronics Initiative (SEI) is a consortium dedicated to the development and implementation of a more sustainable system for designing, producing, remanufacturing, and recycling electronic devices. ISTC's Tim Lindsey is directing the initiative.
[Visit the SEI website](#)

ISTC News

[New plastics scorecard favors bio-based resins](#)

[Take the eco challenge](#)

[NY Passes E-Waste Law, Manufacturers Get Ready To Pay](#)

[News Archive](#)

Upcoming ISTC Events

6/17/10
[Industrial Energy Efficiency, Part 1](#)

6/24/10
[Industrial Energy Efficiency, Part 2](#)

7/1/10
[Green Industrial Performance through Waste Minimization](#)

[View all upcoming events](#)

Recent Publications

[Green Libraries: Getting Started](#)

[Development of Refraction Index Sensors for in situ Monitoring of Machine Cutting Fluids](#)

[Inhibitory Effect of Decomposing Barley Straw on Algal Growth in Water and Wastewater](#)

Illinois Sustainable Technology Center

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Champaign, IL 61820

217-333-8940

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Agroecology and Sustainable Agriculture Program

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topics

- [Organics](#)
- [Local](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Help us grow](#)

upcoming events

[Feeding Universities Sustainably](#)
June 18, 2010

[Biochar 2010](#)
June 27, 2010

[More events...](#)

[Conferences...](#)

news

[Fish Are Jumping—Off Assembly Line](#)
May 19, 2010

[An Urban Farming Pioneer Sows His Own Legacy](#)
May 19, 2010

[More news...](#)

log in

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Feature Stories

Feature: [Help us get a handle on the CU Community Food System](#)

Grants: [OFRF Organic Seeds and Breeding](#) and [Rural Energy](#) and [SARE Research](#)

Volunteer: [Cover Sustainable Food and Farming Issues as an ASAP Volunteer](#)

Classes not to miss: [Living on the Land](#)

New Organizations: [Faith in Place](#)

Tools: [Page with tools](#)

Events: [2010 Sustainable Agriculture Tours](#)

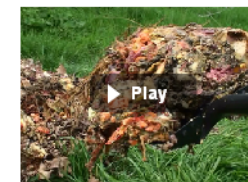
Campus: [Housing Services consider Sustainable Living Communities](#)

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[Older](#)

[Pilot Composting Project to Nourish Campus Farm at University of Illinois](#)
10 months ago

[vimeo](#)

Newest Directory Item

[Farm aid seeks farmer resource network mgr](#)

[More...](#)

About

Add your [events](#), [news](#), articles, research, and nearly any other kind of content!

Interact with the site and others through [comments](#) and [keywords](#)

Explore our topics to find out about [local](#) and [organic](#) agriculture, the [environment](#), and [education](#)

What are you waiting for? [Join](#) and [learn the basics](#)

Site Topics:

explore sustainable agriculture

Organics

Organic certification, education, research, and activities

Local

Local food, agriculture, and community

Environment

Agriculture's influence on the environment

Education

Classes, books, and other opportunities



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[Goals & Strategies](#) [Make A Difference](#) [Student Involvement](#) [Energy Liaisons](#) [Campus Initiatives](#) [Retro-commissioning](#) [Conservation Results & Data](#) [News](#) [Home](#)



(Report Wasteful Energy Practices)

Did You Know...

The UIUC Campus used 9.2% less raw energy in FY09 than FY08.

Links

[It's Your MTD, Too](#)

[ZipCar](#)

[CITES Energy Guidelines](#)

[Printable Conservation Tips](#)

[Renewable Energy Initiative](#)

[Student Sustainability Committee](#)

[Utilities & Energy Management](#)

[Energy Information Admin. \(USDOE\)](#)

Goals & Strategies

Campus Goals

- Three year goal: 10 percent reduction in overall energy use
- Five year goal: Return to 1990 levels of energy use, requires 17 percent reduction in usage, and smaller carbon footprint

How to shrink our carbon footprint

- Reduce energy consumption and cost by eliminating waste and increasing energy efficiency in buildings, electrical equipment used in offices and labs, and campus transportation systems.
- Shift to renewable energy resources by systematically shifting our reliance on fossil fuels to an appropriate balance of energy conservation and alternative and renewable energy sources.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy generation, agricultural operations, and transportation

Department/College Goal Setting

Each department/college should set goals in support of the campus goals. Department/college energy use over the next three years will be reported to the Chancellor and Provost.

The Energy Liaison Program has been created to help the colleges/ departments set and achieve their goals.



Supporting Materials

[Energy Policy](#)

[Energy Liaison Program](#)

[Energy Data](#)



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student sustainability committee

university of illinois at urbana-champaign

[Home](#) [About](#) [Projects](#) [Loans](#) [Links](#) [Archives](#) [Contact](#)



Student Sustainability Committee Members

2009-2010

Faculty/Staff

Tom Abram - *Campus Sustainability Coordinator, Facilities and Services*

James Anderson - *Architecture*

Jeffrey Courson - *Outreach Coordinator, Office of Sustainability*

Brian Deal - *Urban and Regional Planning*

Anton Endress - *Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences*

Wesley Jarrell - *Environmental Change Institute*

Betsy Jo Liggett - *Facilities and Services*

Doris Reeser - *Facilities and Services*

Clifford Singer - *Nuclear, Plasma and Radiological Engineering*

Charlie Werth - *Civil and Environmental Engineering*

Students

Amy Allen - *(Civil and Environmental Engineering)*

Suhail Barot - *(Urban and Regional Planning)* - **Chair**

Corrin Behm - *(Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences)*

David Fan-Chung Hsu - *(Electrical and Computer Engineering)*

Erin Harper - *(Environmental Biology)* - **Vice-Chair**

Stephanie Zec - *(Integrative Biology)*

William Kelleher - *(Electrical Engineering)*

Peter Maraccini - *(Mechanical Science and Engineering)*

Lisa Mazzocco - *(Materials Science and Engineering)*

Nathan Stout - *(Landscape Architecture)*

About

The Student Sustainability Committee's purpose is to: (a) explore the options for the use of the student fees for sustainability and alternative energy generation, (b) evaluate the feasibility of projects being discussed with the professional assistance of engineers in the Division of Facilities and Services. The committee will review and recommend projects to be funded from two student fees, the \$5.00 Sustainable Campus Environment fee and the \$2.00 Cleaner Energy Technologies fee.

In Spring 2007, a \$5.00 per semester refundable student fee for a Sustainable Campus Environment was approved by referendum of the student body by the Board of Trustees. Published materials indicated that this fee will finance initiatives; including sustainable campus development, green buildings, energy efficiency, sustainable resource purchasing, and education and campus engagement in order to create a more sustainable campus environment. This fee will help the University of Illinois align its operations and academics with the principles of sustainability. Sustainability encompasses economic, environmental, and social practices that meet the needs of current generations without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet theirs.

In Spring 2003, a \$2.00 per semester non-refundable student fee for Cleaner Energy Technologies was approved by a student referendum. The intent of the fee is to "provide pollution-free renewable energy as a portion of the campus energy portfolio and reduce campus energy consumption." The types of projects to be considered include wind power, solar energy, and other renewable sources such as hydrogen, biomass, and geothermal systems. A portion of the funds may be used for campus energy efficiency projects such as energy audits of campus building systems.

The projects approved by the committee undergo approval by the Office of Sustainability and Facilities and Services.

To become a member of the Student Sustainability Committee, visit the [VCSA website](#) for application information and application deadlines.



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UNITS WITHIN THE SCHOOL: [ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES](#) [GEOGRAPHY](#) [GEOLOGY](#)

School of Earth, Society, and Environment

[ABOUT US](#) [PEOPLE](#) [FOR STUDENTS](#) [INTERSHIPS](#) [RESEARCH](#) [NEWS](#) [RESOURCES](#)

Study Sustainability

New challenges face the sustainability of Earth's environments and peoples in the 21st century. The School instructs and researches these complex systems

[READ MORE](#)



Announcements

- Study [sustainability](#) at the University of Illinois!
- The [Environmental Policy Speaker Series](#) begins Sept. 11
- Congratulations ESES 2009 Class



- [Shortcut](#) to the Major requirements
- [Shortcut](#) to the list of advanced classes for the major and minor

Sustainability Academics

Sustainability Major: Our future depends on understanding the interactions between the environment, society, and economy - become expert with a degree in [Earth Systems, Environment, and Society](#)

Sustainability Minor: add a minor to any University major with the [Environmental Fellows Program](#).

Sustainability courses: Interested in a course in sustainability? [These courses](#) are from all across the campus!

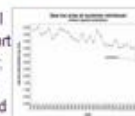
Master and Doctoral Programs: Undertake [advanced research](#) in the Earth's physical and social processes: specialize in [Atmospheric Sciences](#), [Geography](#), or [Geology](#)

Research

The departments in the school do a wide range of cutting-edge research into the Earth's environment and societies» [Learn more...](#)

Research Review 2010 abstracts now available [here](#)

News: School scientists chart arctic sea ice; the long-term trend is toward an ice-free summer » [NY Times article](#)



address: 249 Natural History Building, 1301 W. Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801
tel: 217-244-4064 • fax: 217-244-6323 • email: dyar@uiuc.edu

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COLLEGE OF ACES

ILLINOIS

ACES A-Z

search acs



Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

ABOUT NRES

The Department

Faculty & Staff

Our Programs

Research

Outreach

Partnerships

FOR STUDENTS

For Future Online Students

"The Off-Campus NRES M.S. Program was a great opportunity to obtain my master's while living 'life.' The classes were available throughout the year to fulfill the graduate degree requirements. The most encouraging part was the professors' willingness to help students succeed—they understand that you might have a full-time job, a family, and other personal obligations. I would recommend this program to anyone who as the desire to push themselves to the next education level, especially for those who cannot return to school full-time. I am thankful such a strong off-campus program from an outstanding university exists!" Laura K. Haake — City Park Designer, United City of Yorkville, Illinois

In the NRES online M.S. program, we appreciate the knowledge and skills students with life and professional experience bring to the online classroom. Our faculty commonly discuss the enjoyment they get from teaching the online courses because the students frequently provide examples from their own experience and take what they learned one evening and apply it in their jobs the next day. So whether you already work in an NRES-related job and want to take courses or earn a master's to enhance your professional opportunities or you are seeking a change of careers, our staff and faculty look forward to working with you.

If, after exploring the links here, you'd like greater insight into the program, we suggest you explore the [current online student pages](#).

- ⇒ [Why the NRES online M.S. program?](#)
- ⇒ [How does the online M.S. program work?](#)
- ⇒ [Online M.S. Degree Requirements](#)
- ⇒ [Financial Information](#)
- ⇒ [Standards for Admission](#)
- ⇒ [Current Course Offerings](#)
- ⇒ [Meet Some Online Students and Alums](#)

ONLINE STUDENTS





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ENGINEERING AT ILLINOIS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY ENGINEERING (EASE)

MISSION
* ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY AT
ILLINOIS *
GRADUATE OPTION PROGRAM
SEMINARS AND SYMPOSIA
RESEARCH PROGRAMS
EASE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
VIDEOS
BOOK LIST
CONTACT US
SUPPORT EASE AT ILLINOIS

[CoE Announcement of EaSE Graduate Option Program Photovoltaic Panels on the Business School](#)

Mission

The College of Engineering initiative in Energy and Sustainability Engineering (EaSE) has four goals:

- To promote interdisciplinary research that joins the fields of science, engineering, environment and policy.
- To provide education and training for the global workforce.
- To engage industrial partners in the research and educational missions of the university.
- To link efforts within the College to complementary programs on campus.

Energy engineering refers to the development of technologies for energy harvesting, conversion, transmission and use that are highly efficient and sustainable in future generations.

Sustainability engineering refers to the development of technologies that provide the necessities for civil society and the infrastructure for commerce in efficient and renewable ways that minimize adverse impact on the earth system.

The topics of energy and sustainability are highly interrelated; a leading example is bioenergy, which has major implications concerning land, water, atmosphere, and sustainability.

Education: To fulfill the demands of the global workforce, there exists a growing need for education and training in the areas of *Energy and Sustainability Engineering (EaSE)*. An effective preparation for the student is to acquire a rigorous background in a core engineering discipline, combined with an interdisciplinary understanding of the energy and sustainability challenges and a deeper understanding of a chosen sub-



Office of Sustainability

- Achieve responsibilities of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment including
 - Develop a comprehensive plan
 - Initiate action steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Coordinate enhancement of campus infrastructure & policies
- Facilitate curricular enhancements, including service learning opportunities in the community
- Encourage innovative research collaborations
- Foster collaboration with external constituencies, especially our local communities
- Provide forums to promote meaningful dialogue on challenges and opportunities



Illinois Sustainability Initiative

- 2007 Strategic Plan
- 2008 Chancellor Herman launched:
 - Sustainability Council to provide strategic direction & oversight of the initiative
 - Office of Sustainability to provide operational leadership for the initiative
- 2008-09: Sustainability vision created through participatory cross-campus process
- 2009-10: Launch implementation of the vision through adaptive cross-campus engagement



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OFFICE OF Sustainability
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



THE STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITY IN
GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES:

A Vision for the
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

NOVEMBER 18, 2009

Led by Barbara S. Minsker, Associate Provost Fellow
and
Richard E. Warner, Director, Office of Sustainability



Objective of the Illinois Sustainability Vision

- Illinois will become a world leader in creating new knowledge and innovative solutions to the following grand challenges:
 1. *Maintaining or restoring critical ecosystem function while providing essential human services; and*
 2. *Sustainably raising quality of life for the poor to acceptable levels.*
- To do so, we will infuse sustainability programs across campus to foster a level of cross-disciplinary engagement comparable to a unit or center.



Goals of the Illinois Sustainability Vision

1. Create a new forum for in-depth, cross-disciplinary engagement on the sustainability grand challenges.
2. Create and implement a sustainable campus operations plan that maintains or restores natural ecosystem function and supports impoverished communities.
3. Infuse sustainable thinking into campus missions through new education activities.
4. Create incentive programs that spur sustainability activities to meet the above goals.
5. Create a viable financial plan for sustainability activities.



Status of the Sustainability Initiative

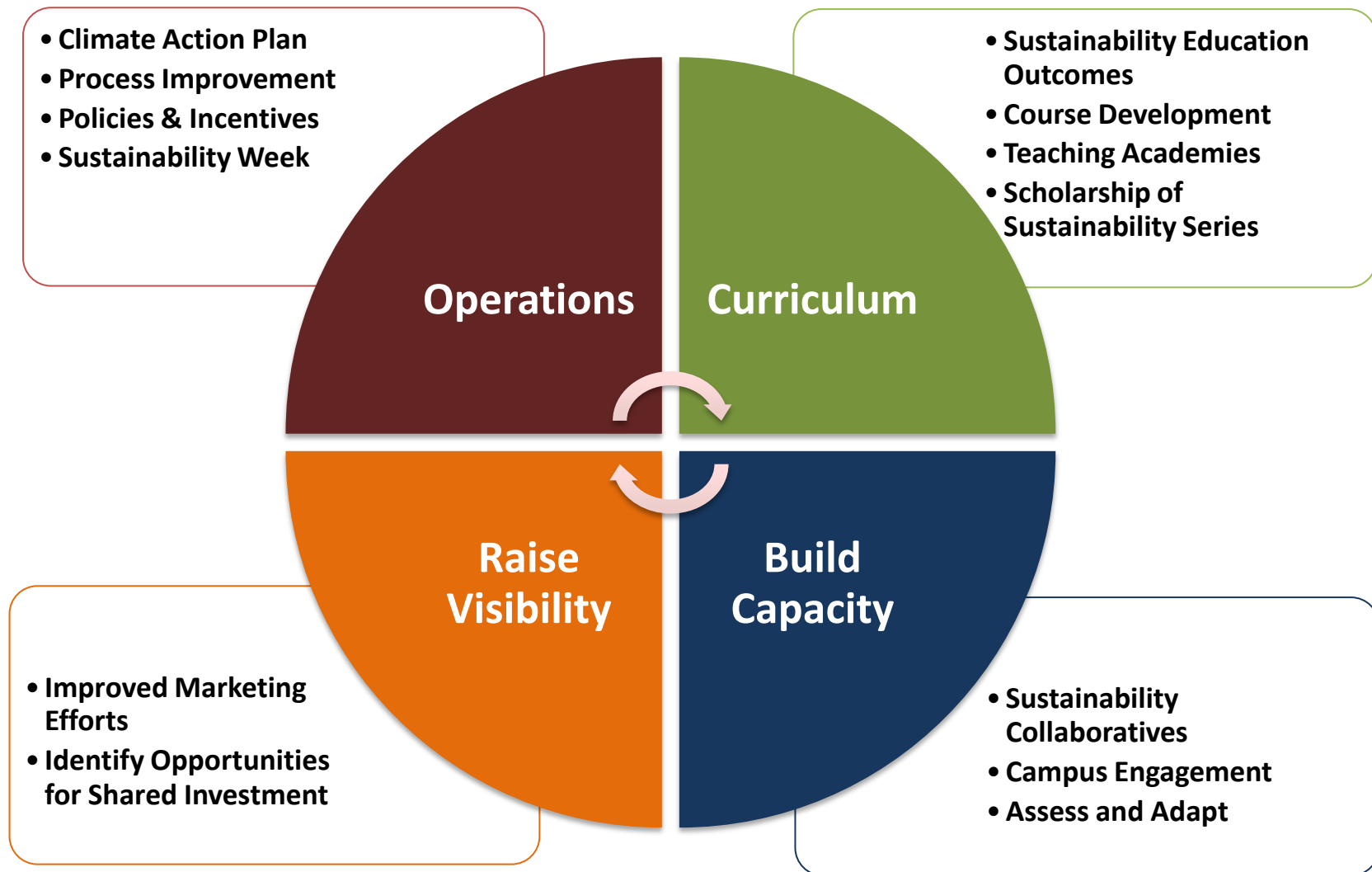
- Implementation process launched in August 2009
 - Three task forces formed (Goals 1-3)
 - Sustainability Forum (Robert McKim, Religion; Michelle Wander, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences)
 - Sustainable Operations (Brian Deal, Urban and Regional Planning; Carl Wegel, Facilities & Services)
 - Sustainability Education (Madhu Viswanathan, Business Administration; Bill Stewart, Leisure Studies)
 - Campus-wide retreat held with ~100 participants
- 2010-11 Implementation Plan created and approved by Sustainability Council



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2010-11 Illinois Sustainability Implementation Plan





Keynote Activities

- Scholarship of Sustainability Series (Spring 2010)
- Climate Action Plan
- Sustainability Collaboratives
- Prairie Project: Infusing Sustainability Across the Curriculum (May 2010)
- Sustainability Week (October 25-30, 2010)
- Engagement (e.g., CCNet, IGBA)



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Food/Water/Energy Nexus (Collaboratives)



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Illinois Sustainability Theme: Food, Water, & Energy Nexus

**Agriculture &
Land Use**



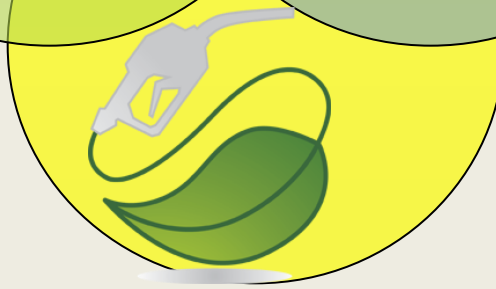
**Water Cycle
Science &
Engineering**



**Role of Land
Grant
Institutions**

**Raising Quality
of Life for Poor**

Energy systems





Education & Service Learning

- John Street Watershed planning, *Sustainability in Social-Ecological Systems* (NRES 285CSS/LA 590GF) offered for Spring 2010. There are 30 students enrolled in the class from four departments (three colleges). Faculty members from four departments helping teach the class.
- *The Human Place in Nature: Campus Series on the Scholarship of Sustainability*, with courses offered in Spring 2010 in four departments as CHP 395/C, HDES 595, NRES 499, and LAW 792. Over a dozen faculty members participated in the course as well as dozens of students; open to the community as well.



The Prairie Project:

A curriculum enhancement workshop

The Prairie Project is a curriculum enhancement workshop opportunity that aims to create an open and supportive environment for faculty and instructors from all disciplines to engage in mutual learning about sustainability, and brainstorming and experimenting with novel and interdisciplinary educational approaches. The project will use the local prairie environment, from the natural prairie to highly modified settings, to illustrate how a place-based perspective allows consideration of the interconnected social, environmental, and economic issues surrounding sustainability (initiated May 2010).



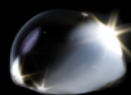
Engagement

- CCNet
- Illinois Green Business Association
- Community Colleges
- CASI-CERL



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CCNet
CHAMPAIGNCOUNTYNET.ORG

HOME

DISCUSSION GROUPS

- ☐ Social Justice
- ☐ Local Foods
- ☐ Energy Efficiency
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Renewable Energy
- ☐ Business

EVENT CALENDAR

EMAIL SIGN UP

ABOUT US

CU 2025



Event Calendar

Today ◀ ▶ June 2010 ▾ [Print](#) [Week](#) [Month](#) [Agenda](#) ▾

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	Jun 1	2 4:30pm Energy	3 12pm Local F	4 5:30pm Gree	5 7am Urbana
6	7 3pm Underre	8 12pm Renew	9 6pm EV Club 7pm Urbana	10 3pm Champa	11 5:30pm Gree	12 7am Urbana
13	14 2:30pm Multic	15 5:30pm Local	16	17 3pm Champa 4pm Blue Wa	18 5:30pm Gree	19 7am Urbana
20	21	22	23 8am Transpc 3pm Champa	24 12pm Sustair	25 5:30pm Gree	26 7am Urbana
27	28	29	30 12pm Local F 3pm Champa	Jul 1 5:30pm Gree	2 7am Urbana	3

Events shown in time zone: Central Time [+ Google Calendar](#)

What is sustainability?

- energy efficiency
- local foods
- conservation
- pollution reduction
- (your idea here)

What are the economic opportunities?

- green jobs
- increased investment in the region
- federal funding
- recruitment of new companies to the region
- enhanced profitability
- (your idea here)

How can innovation around this topic improve the quality of life in this region?

- lower the cost of infrastructure
- lower taxes
- facilitate the recruitment and retention of talented workers
- create a healthier community environment
- (your idea here)

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN





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Illinois Green Business Association

www.IllinoisGBA.com

The Illinois Green Business Association (IGBA) is a nonprofit organization that aims to assist businesses in reducing their ecological foot-print through their business operations and employee practices in nine areas of sustainability. We offer business owners personalized service that guides them towards sustainable goals by attaining our green certification. The IGBA staff will assess a business' current environmental performance, serve as a guide throughout all steps of our certification progress, as well as search for utilize applicable grants and incentive packages to assist businesses financially with green management practices (gmps). IGBA staff will promote and market a business' successful efforts to the community to build a culture of sustainability and promote responsible consumerism.



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Illinois Green Business Association

FACT OF THE WEEK | Illinois is one of the top producers of ethanol in the Nation (eia.gov).

ABOUT

Staff Bios

Board Members

PARTNERS

Get Involved

CERTIFICATION

Areas of Certification

Pilot Program Phase

Participants

Certified Businesses

FAQ

HISTORY

Articles

RESOURCES

CONTACT US!

Congratulations to our first three certified businesses, the International Society of Arboriculture, B. Lime, and Ippatsu Salon in Champaign! Check out IGBA's recent Article in the News-Gazette and TV spot on Channel 15!

We are excited to certify the remaining **ten** businesses participating in the green business certification pilot program in Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy, as well as pilot a business course at Illinois State University (ISU) this summer where students will be working with our certification program!

IGBA is on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)!

The Illinois Green Business Association is a registered Program Ally of AmerenIP's [Act On Energy® Efficiency Programs](#).

Welcome

Many businesses are curious about how to improve their operations to become more sustainable. However, businesses do not have readily available resources to convert to greener practices or a local program that recognizes green businesses.

The Illinois Green Business Association is bringing a certification program to Champaign-Urbana to help create a sustainable business community.

What is a Green Business?

A green business is an environmental leader within the community that encourages environmentally efficient operations and sustainability within the workplace. They not only benefit economically from improving efficiency, but will have a marketing edge over other businesses.

The Illinois Green Business Association's certification program will promote, recognize, and provide hands-on support to local businesses that operate in an environmentally responsible manner. Green business certification is well worth its time-intensive process and is a great opportunity for businesses to examine their own operations and implement more efficient practices.

Our **mission** is to assist businesses in reducing their ecological foot-print by attaining our green certification. We will assess a business' current environmental performance and guide them towards certification. We will utilize applicable grants and incentive packages to aid businesses in the certification process. We will promote and market these successful efforts to the community to build a culture of sustainability and responsible consumerism.

Our **vision** is to create a model business assistance program that provides quality support and recognizes businesses that go beyond environmental compliance by preventing pollution at its



Illinois Green Business Association www.IllinoisGBA.com

The Illinois Green Business Association (IGBA) has extensively involved faculty and students regarding experiential learning and related opportunities. Since the spring semester of 2009, learning activities related to the IGBA have emerged in at least six colleges. Ten courses have directly involved 44 students in service learning activities, while also exposing 376 students in these classes to such green business issues. There has also been the direct involvement of 29 students in IGBA activities emerging from five student organizations, also exposing over one hundred students in these RSOs to green business opportunities. In addition, the IGBA has involved 12 other students either as interns or as part of their graduate research projects.

In total, 91 students have been directly involved with IGBA projects, with over 570 students having been exposed to the IGBA and business sustainability opportunities (not counting the exposure from various career fairs as well as IGBA being the focus of a June 2010 business course at the Illinois State University with 11 students).



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ICCSN Seeks Funding Under Economic Stimulus Package

Established in 2007, the Illinois Community College Sustainability Network (ICCSN) is a consortium of all 48 Illinois community colleges dedicated to providing the training and expertise to engage in the new energy economy.

Initial funding for the network has been provided by the Illinois Department Commerce of Economic Opportunity.

The ICCSN is seeking funds through the ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) to build an Illinois green collar workforce. To establish how community colleges can build the green workforce, the ICCSN has created a proposal with two major goals:

- Rapidly accelerate training and development of the green collar workforce by expanding the Illinois Community College Sustainability Network.
- Immediately create green collar jobs through bid-ready, college energy projects that use renewable energy and conservation, reduce the energy costs of college facilities, train workers in green collar skills and serve as community demonstrations of green technology.

[Read the proposal \(PDF\)](#)

[View a presentation on the AARA \(PowerPoint\)](#)

[Illinois Congressional delegation urges Governor Quinn to provide federal recovery funding for green-collar jobs programs at community colleges](#)



Mission

The Illinois Community College Sustainability Network (ICCSN) is dedicated to

- rapidly address the new energy economy's needs for a green jobs workforce and for widespread deployment of energy efficiency and energy conservation to the main street community level;
- strengthen Illinois community colleges' capacity to share resources state-wide that provide and promote energy education and sustainable practices;
- model renewable energy technology on community college campuses; and,
- establish Illinois as a national leader in training the green collar workforce for renewable energy technology and energy conservation.

Learn More and Get Involved

- [Green for All](#)
- [Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education \(AASHE\)](#)
- [Presidents Climate Commitment](#)

[More Resources](#) ►



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Memorandum of Understanding with CERL

Curriculum

The Prairie Project

Long Term Recovery Council

Scholarship of Sustainability

Research

Memorandum of Understanding
with CERL

Giving

CERL and the University of Illinois to Collaborate on Sustainability R&D

During a September 18 ceremony at the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL), Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) Director James R. Houston signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to support joint research activities in advancing sustainability innovations.



The challenge of developing sustainable institutions, expertise, and practices attracts broad interest at both Illinois and ERDC. In 2006, ERDC established the Center for the Advancement of Sustainability Innovations (CASI), with the CASI director located at CERL. CASI supports the Army strategy for sustainability, which pursues sustainable practices in all Army operations. Illinois established its Office of Sustainability in December 2008 to provide leadership to its campus units, enhance communication and coordination across campus, and promote synergies with external constituents in implementing the UIUC strategic plan for sustainability.

Specific objectives of the MOU are to:

- Leverage the technical capabilities of Illinois and ERDC toward advancing sustainability innovations in matters of mutual interest.



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Climate Action

iCAP

A Climate Action Plan

for the
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

MAY 15, 2010

 ILLINOIS



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iCAP

- Foundation for next chapter
- Energy conservation imperative (investment)
The UIUC Campus used 9.2% less raw energy in FY09 than FY08; another 9.5% reduction for first 7 months of this FY compared to same period last year.
- “Big Energy Idea”



Big Energy Idea (Initiative)

- Sparked by vision @ Corporate Partner Dialogue Day February 2010

Scale:

- 140 Megawatts, \$400-\$500 million
- Multiple renewable components
- Community-Corporate-Private-UIUC
- UIUC roles at a minimum: customer, R & D
- Public rollout summer 2011



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Microgrid in downtown Champaign up for discussion

Tue, 06/15/2010 - 6:00am | [Don Dodson](#)

CHAMPAIGN – Mike Royse of **One Main Development** plans to bring business and university representatives together Monday to discuss what kind of role a "microgrid" might play in Champaign-Urbana.

Microgrids are essentially localized power grids that can draw from local energy sources, such as solar or wind power facilities. Microgrids are usually connected with the main power grid but can operate autonomously.

Royse said a microgrid could help ensure that uninterrupted power is available to data centers and other high-performance computing facilities in town.

One Main Development has a particular interest in the concept, Royse said, because a prospective tenant for its M2 building in downtown Champaign "would require enhanced power and cooling needs."

Royse said he's not yet ready to identify the prospective tenant. But he said the microgrid concept holds advantages for many types of users.

Microgrids can be used for load sharing, for incorporating renewable energy sources and for making the grid more responsive to individual customers – particularly when needs differ from building to building, he said.

Ideally, microgrids make use of so-called smart-grid technologies, he said.

"They can understand when devices need to be running and can prioritize where any available power might go," Royse said. "They also can be used to level out the demand that's on the grid."

Royse said One Main Development hopes to explore the concept with several partners, including Busey Bank, the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, the University of Illinois, General Electric and Ameren.

At Monday's meeting, he hopes to talk with "larger business owners in the urban core of Champaign" about needs that could be addressed by enhanced power systems.

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Center for Community Adaptation

In June of 2010 the Center for Community Adaptation will be launched as a not-for-profit business in Champaign, Illinois. The Center will adopt place-based strategies to help communities beneficially adapt to issues and opportunities framed by environmental, social, and economic sustainability.



Closing Remarks

- Complexities of sustainability in a Land Grant context with severe budget challenges
- Various approaches and complexities apparent in overview of sustainability efforts at Big Ten institutions
(<http://sustainability.illinois.edu/reports.html>)
- iCAP and ASHE
- A pause, review, and next steps at UIUC